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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/060,599	JAKOBSSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Courtney D. Fields	2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *24 September 2007*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-20*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-20 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 24 September 2007 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

3.   Claims 1-20 are allowed.

4.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed toward a method and apparatus for identification tagging documents in a computer system. The present invention allows for the investigative tracing of computer generated documents, but prevents unauthorized third parties from determining the identity of other users and from framing other user. Each independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct features **"creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on said function of the document and a unique processor identifier associated with said computer system, said cryptographic function producing an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party, said third party being unassociated with, and independent from, the creation of said created document by said computer system, possessing said document, said identification tag, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can determine a source of said document as a function of identifying said computer system"**.

The closest prior art, Mi et al. (US Patent No. 6,418,472) discloses a system and method for controlling access to an object. The system stores an object and a processor identifier. The system includes a verification agent that can access information embedded in a processor and then calculate from that embedded information a value that may be compared with the stored processor identifier. A comparison agent is used to compare that value with the processor identifier to determine whether the processor corresponds to the processor identifier. If the value that the verification agent returns matches the processor identifier, then the computer grants the user access to the object. However, either singularly or in combination, Mi et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function wherein the function of the document is a hash function.

The closest prior art, Rabin et al. (US Patent No. 6,889,209) discloses a mechanism for the purchase of tags for copies of software ensures that identity of the purchaser of a tag table identifier value included in a purchased tag is not revealed. A mechanism of Call-Ups from the user device to a guardian center ensures that each tag table identifier value appears in only one user device and that the data included in a tag table and other data stored in the user device for the purpose of protecting vendor's and owner's rights in software, cannot be modified. However, either singularly or in combination, Rabin et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function wherein the function of the document is a hash function.

The closest prior art, Foster et al. (US Patent No. 5,327,570) discloses a multiprocessor data processing system and a method of operating same, so as to provide efficient bandwidth utilization of shared system resources. The system includes a plurality of processor nodes, each of which includes a data processor. A first step of a method buffers data written by a data processor to a first bus, prior to the data being transmitted to a second bus. Also buffered are byte enable (BE) signals generated by the data processor in conjunction with the data written by the data processor. A next step performs a main memory write operation by transmitting the buffered data to the second bus; responsive to the stored BE signals, also transmitting a control signal for indicating if a memory write is to be accomplished as a read-modify-write (RMW) type of memory operation; and transmitting the stored BE signals to the second bus. A further step couples the data, the RMW signal, and the BE signals from the second bus to a third bus for reception by the main memory. However, either singularly or in combination, Foster et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitation of creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function wherein the function of the document is a hash function.

5.   Therefore, **claims 1,8, and 14**, and the respective **dependent claims 2-7, 9-13, and 15-20** are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.
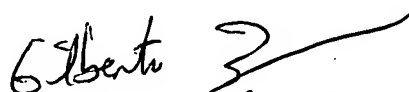
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

cdf
November 20, 2007

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